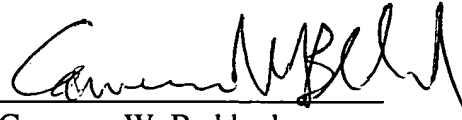


***PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT***  
***U. S. Application No. 10/000,123***

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 21, 2004